

Message Text

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14

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DOTE-00 FMC-04 PA-03 USIA-12

PRS-01 OMB-01 RSR-01 /066 W
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R 290622 Z JUN 73

FM AMCONSUL SYDNEY
TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4661
AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

UNCLAS SYDNEY 1573

MELBOURNE FOR LABAT

EO 11652 NA

TAGS: ETRN, EIND, AS

SUBJ: SYDNEY CARGO DOCKS CLOSED

REF: SYDNEY 1574

1. IN A CONTINUING DISPUTE BETWEEN MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORT WORKERS UNION AND THE WATERSIDE WORKERS FEDERATION, THE TWU DECLARED ALL SYDNEY WHARVES QUOTE OUT OF BOUNDS UNQUOTE FOR ITS MEMBERS EFFECTIVE AT MIDNIGHT 27 JUNE 1973. THE TWO ARE REFUSING TO ALLOW MEMBERS TO HANDLE ANY CARGO THUS EFFECTIVELY BLOCKING THE REMOVAL OF CONTAINERS FROM THE SYDNEY WHARVES.

2. THE NSW STATE OWNED AND OPERATED GLEBE ISLAND CONTAINER WHARF HAS BEEN CLOSED FOR ABOUT THREE WEEKS IN A DISPUTE CENTERING ON WHICH UNION MEMBERS SHOULD MOVE CONTAINERS WHILE IN THE DOCK AREA. A STATE ARBITRATION BOARD FOUND FOR THE WWF WHO ORIGINALLY BROUGHT ACTION AGAINST THE TWU, HENCE SPARKING THE PORT- WIDE BAN BY THE TWU. THE GLEBE ISLAND FACILITY IS STILL UNLOADING CONTAINERS FROM SHIPS, USING MARITIME BOARD EMPLOYEES, BUT THE CONTAINERS
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THEN SIT ON THE DOCKS.

3. GEO. JONES OF THE AMERICAN FLAG FARRELL LINES STATES THAT THE FARRELL LINES ASTRAL ENDURANCE DUE AT SYDNEY FROM U . S. EASTERN PORTS AND NEW ZEALAND ON 2 JULY 1973 HAS BEEN DIVERTED TO MELBOURNE AWAITING THE SETTLEMENT OF THIS LABOR DISPUTE. HE SAID THAT FARRELL LINES STILL HAS CONTAINERS FROM PREVIOUS VESSELS AT GLEBE ISLAND BEING UNABLE TO HAVE THEM HANDLED.

4. NO GENERAL CARGO IS BEING HANDLED AT SYDNEY ALTHOUGH ISOLATED INSTANCES OF PERISHIBLE GOODS IN NON CONTAINER VESSELS HAVE BEEN GRANTED PERMISSION TO BE HANDLED BY THE WWF. THE TIE- UP IS EXPECTED TO LAST AT LEAST UNTIL TUESDAY 3 JULY 1973 WHEN SEVERAL UNION MEETINGS ARE SCHEDULED.
HANNAH

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NNNNMAFVVZCZ

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*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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MELBOURNE
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